

Message Text

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67

ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-08 IGA-02 /156 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ MEX: RFKING: MRG

X-29480 4/23/73

APPROVED BY ARA/ MEX: CPTORREY

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P 232210 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIN, MX

SUBJECT: PRESSURES ON KAISER GYPSUM

REF: KING/ FOGARTY TELECON 4/19/73

1. DEPARTMENT INFORMED BY WASHINGTON OFFICE KAISER INDUSTRIES THAT ITS GYPSUM MINE IN BAJA CALIFORNIA VISITED TWO WEEKS AGO BY GOM OFFICIALS AND PRESS. VISIT WAS UNEXPECTED AND ALLEGEDLY MADE IN RESPONSE TO CHARGES THAT MINES WERE IN BAD CONDITION AND WORKERS WERE BEING MISTREATED. KAISER OFFICIALS THOUGHT THEY HAD SATISFIED OFFICIALS AND PRESS THAT MINES WERE IN GOOD CONDITION AND WORKERS WELL OFF, AND WERE SURPRISED TO SEE APRIL 17 EL HERALDO ARTICLE DESCRIBING CONDITIONS AS DEPLORABLE.

2. KAISER CONCERNED CAMPAIGN BEGINNING WITH AIM OF TAKING OVER ITS MINING OPERATION. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT PART OF PROBLEM TIED TO HUGO CERVANTES, SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT, AND PERIOD WHEN HE WAS GOVERNOR OF BAJA
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CALIFORNIA. HE HAD NEVER BEEN INVITED TO VISIT MINE AND REPORTEDLY TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO DO IT NOW. QUESTION RAISED BY KAISER IS WHETHER IT SHOULD GO TO CERVANTES AND TRY TO SMOOTH THINGS OVER. WE UNDERSTAND EMBASSY DOES NOT FAVOR THIS APPROACH AND DEPARTMENT INCLINED TO AGREE.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO KEEP DEPARTMENT ADVISED OF ANY INFORMATION WHICH INDICATES GOM CONTEMPLATING ACTION

AGAINST KAISER. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ASSESSMENT OF EARLIER VISIT TO KAISER GYPSUM BY GOM AND INTENT OF EL HERALDO ARTICLE. PORTER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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30 JUN 2005

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